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Assistant Director for Operations 4 May 1949

Chief, FBIB

Progress Report for April 1949

1. In compliance with memorandum dated 28 June 1949 to Chief, FBIB, from the Deputy Assistant Director for Operations, the FBIB monthly progress report is submitted for the month ending 30 April 1949.

2. The new station on Cyprus was activated 15 April 1949. Present production is limited by certain staff shortages but, in other respects, improvements in the material filed to Washington are already observed.

3. Plans for starting an interim operation on Okinawa as soon as adequate staff can be provided have been approved.

4. The European section of the FBIB Daily Report was divided and published in two separate sections: "USSR and Eastern Europe" and "Western Europe and the Near East." This breakdown increases from three to four the number of daily reports published by this Branch.

5. A special report, "The Machine Tool Industry of the Soviet Union," was prepared by Special Reports Division in response to an ORE request. In addition, a special report entitled, "Soviet Radio Reactions to: The First Use of the Atomic Bomb on Japan; the Merck Report on Biological Warfare; Forrestal's Recent Press Release on Biological Warfare," was prepared in response to a request from the Office of Secretary of Defense via OCD.

6. On 8 April 1949 the Chief, FBIB, addressed the assembled Branch Chiefs of ORE on the general nature of FBIB operations, with particular emphasis on this Branch's capabilities to satisfy the requirements of ORE.

7. A survey has been recently undertaken by this Branch at the request of the Department of State to determine the nature, incidence, distribution and effectiveness of recent intensified jamming of the Voice of America.

8. Samples of American press dispatches from Western Germany and Austria in Morse code and radioteletype are being intercepted and delivered to Western European Branch, ORE, for evaluation as a possible substitute for German-language voice intercepts.

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9. At the request of the Department of State, [redacted] were monitored for extreme rightist and pro-Fascist commentators. Several transcripts were furnished. 50X1 50X1

10. The project to reorganize FBIB reference file by changing the present card file system to the visible reference system has been approved.

11. Special distribution of monitored broadcast items to appropriate government agencies totaled 622 items for the month.

L. K. WHITE

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